(b) and (c) The Centre for Earth Science Studies, Kerala have conducted studies and have opined that:

(i) The red colour in rain was probably due to meteoric dust.

(ii) The chemical analysis of the samples collected showed that the material is largely biological and has been identified as fungal spores.

Death of wild animals in zoos and conserved forests

† 2787. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are showing grave negligence in the protection of wildlife;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite spending cores of rupees on safety and various other systems in conserved forests, the wild animals are being killed and they are dying due to diseased in the zoos; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the details of killings and diseases in zoos during the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):(a)No,Sir.

(b) Deaths of wild animals and birds do occur due to a variety of reasons including natural causes, age, disease and poaching etc.

(c) State-wise information on deaths of important animals in the large and medium zoos that occurred during the last two years is given in the Annexure. *[See* Appendix 193, Annexure No. 17]

Recommendations of Central Zoo Authority

2788. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI ABANI ROY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Zoo Authority's recommendations, made from time to time, are not followed by various zoological parks in the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.